Alternative system of entrance examination

362. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently many all India entrance examinations to prestigious course in IIMs and IITs had to be cancelled due to leakage of question papers;

(b) if so, how many such cases occurred during 2003 and 2004 and what preventive measures have been taken to eliminate recurrence of such cases;

(c) whether Government are thinking of some alternative system of entrance in IIMs, IITs etc. on centralized or decentralized basis; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) The Common Admission Test (CAT) for entry to all Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and some other management Institutions conducted on November 23, 2003 had to be cancelled due to alleged leakage of question paper. The test was successfully re-conducted on February 15, 2004. The entire admission procedure was thoroughly reviewed in a combined meeting of the IIMs. As a result several additional precautions *i.e.* change of the printing press, additional seal for each question paper, additional security during test construction, additional deployment of faculty and staff during conduction of the test etc. were implemented in subsequent test.

The old system of CAT for IIMs and the Common Entrance Examination for Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) is still prevalent.

Review of NCERT History books

363. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that terms of reference of Three-Member Committee of Historians appointed to review NCERT History books, do not have precise interpretation;

(b) whether they have to assess the saffronised books of NDA period or any deviation from the historical facts; and